



## CITY OF DANBURY CULTURAL COMMISSION

256 Main Street  
Danbury, Connecticut 06810  
203 797 4508

February 24, 2020

### Minutes of the Meeting

The Meeting called to order by Chairman Harvey Center at 6:30 pm with Commissioners: Helen Bechard, Sandy Chaleski, John Cherry, John Cooke, Cheryl Hill, Ed Moore, Gregory Smith, and Coordinator Gregory Wencek. Absent: Richard Aronson, and Mary Burke.

Chairman HCenter notified the commissioners that Commissioner MBurke will send her letter of resignation to the Mayor soon.

### Presentation of Minutes

The Minutes of the January meeting were presented. A motion by JCooke to accept the minutes with spelling corrections was made, seconded by GSmith. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### Correspondence

Mail: Press releases

Email: Marian Anderson documentary, Make Music Day, Literary Contest, Press releases

### Reports on DCC sponsored events

- Date Night - Saint Peter Church Friday, February 14-7:30 – 9:00pm

#### Danbury events not sponsored by the Commission

- Danbury Music Centre
- Palace Theater Danbury
- Galleries
  - Gallery at Still River Editions
  - @287 287 Main St. Danbury
  - Gallery of the Visual and Performing Arts Center WCSU Westside campus, 43 Lake Ave. Extension
- Accessible Art
  - City Hall,
  - CityCenter Danbury,
  - Hodge Insurance,
  - Filosa Convalescent/Hancock Hall,
- Danbury Museums
  - Historical Society - *The Fair That John Built* February 1 - December 19, 2020
  - Danbury Railway Museum Easter Bunny train ride
- Danbury Library

### Upcoming events

Calendar submitted to the Commissioners, and maintained at [DanburyArts.com](http://DanburyArts.com)

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
DANBURY TOWN CLERK

2020 FEB 26 1 P 5:42

BY: 



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### Coordinator's Report

1. Short Story due back in two weeks
2. Budget
  - a. Grant opportunity for Make Music Day of \$750
3. Make Music Day preparations for 2020
4. Greg Smith Logo drafts available

### Appeals from Community groups:

Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut - Lisa Scails Executive Director, requests \$3,000.

CAWC is asking for assistance with the Accessible Art Project. The project provided over 20 exhibitions rotating through 5 venues in Greater Danbury. This is part of the economic development project to bring more life to downtown. Started 25 years ago as a way to provide artwork on the walls of City Hall this project has had as many as 40 artists showing their works in non-traditional gallery spaces. The 5 venues this year are: Danbury City Hall, Filosa and Hancock Hall nursing/rehabilitation facilities, CityCenter, and Hoge Insurance. Artists works are available for sale.

### Old business

1. Poetry and story contests. Story deadline March 6, Poetry deadline April 3, 2020. HBechard will book the Awards ceremony May 21 at Western Connecticut State University.
2. Make Music Day.
  - a. A grant of \$750 is available from the State of Connecticut through the Make Music Alliance. Following a discussion the consensus of the Commissioners is that the Coordinator should apply for the grant and details for spending, if awarded, will be finalized at the Cultural Commission March meeting. The grant award date is April 2020.
  - b. JCooke has been in contact with the Savings Bank of Danbury to be a venue for performance on Make Music Day. Their reaction is favorable.
  - c. GWencek offered a "Main Street Music Stroll" theme for Make Music Day. The concept includes patrons strolling from City Hall Plaza, Library Plaza, The Music Centre, CityCenter, Escape to the Arts/Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut, and the Ives Street Green. Local businesses would be encouraged to invite strollers into their shops between musical segments.
  - d. SChaleski wanted to be sure that the schools were included and given a chance to participate, even though it will be after schools close
  - e. HBechard notes that asking Western Connecticut State University to include their music students often requires a stipend for their time.
3. Reaching new Grantees project is working within the Logo and Brochure projects
4. The logo design. GSmith has presented multiple samples of potential logo artwork. After viewing the submissions and discussion the consensus of the Commissioners is to ask the artist to expand on the idea of a tree, to signify growth and life, and hats, to signify the history of the City. Other discussion highlights are that the logo should be scalable in size and easily rendered in color and monochrome.



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### New Business

1. None.

### Action on Grant Requests:

Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut requests \$3,000. Moved by HBechard to grant \$1,500.00, seconded by CHill.

DISCUSSION: SChaleski asked about Grant rules for administrative costs. The rules do not prohibit that. JCooke noted that he would like to see come of the exhibits. HCenter noted that the Commission does not fund much Visual Art.

CALLED: The motion to grant \$1,500 to the the Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut for Accessible Art Project passed by unanimous vote.

### Other Business

1. None

### Motion to adjourn at 7:30

Made by JCooke. Passed by Unanimous vote.